INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No PCT/JP2004/011642

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C23C18/18 C23C18/32 C23C18/31 C25D5/48 According to International Petent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C23C C25D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category ° Citation of do current, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages US 4 511 614 A (GREESON ET AL) 1-12. 18-29. 16 April 1985 (1985-04-16) 36-38 column 1, lines 58-62; claims 1,5 13-17, Y 30-35 column 3, lines 26-33 column 4, lines 48-53 column 5, lines 38-43,62-68; example 1 EP 0 317 838 A (ANRITSU CORPORATION) X 8-12, 31 May 1989 (1989-05-31) 25-29, 36,38 page 12, lines 42-50; claim 12 X US 4 233 107 A (JOHNSON, SR. ET AL) 8-12, 25-29, 11 November 1980 (1980-11-11) 36,38 claims 1,8 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of planticular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another clation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority clate claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 22/02/2005 15 February 2005 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31 - 70) 340 - 2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31 - 70) 340 - 3016 Gault, N

3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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